

Hall-Dale Middle/High School  
Communications Cohort Meeting  
April 6, 2010  
7:00 - 7:45AM

Members Present: Leanne Bond, Diane Smith, Kendra Guiou, Chris Chamberlain and Steve Lavoie

#### I. Purpose/Structure of the Group

- To open and maintain lines of communication between parents and school regarding ongoing efforts to implement a standards-based, student centered educational environment.
- Structure of the group: 5 parents (some with students at multiple levels in Hall-Dale Schools), 2 teachers, and members of the HDMS/HS Administrative Team (Principal, Assistant Principals, Guidance Director as needed).
- 3 parents have responded that they are willing to be involved and can make most if not all of scheduled meetings. 2 parents have yet to respond and will be contacted again.
- Minutes of meetings will be posted on both the middle school and high school websites within 24 hours of each meeting.
- An agenda will be provided to members of the cohort prior to each meeting.

#### II. Strategic Plan

- A draft of a strategic plan is being developed and will be shared with the superintendent and faculty by April 9.
- Once shared with superintendent and faculty, it will be posted on both the middle school and high school website.

#### III. Freshman Meetings

- Regular meetings with the freshman class have been scheduled and each will have specific topics to be discussed.
- First meeting topics are:
  1. Results of the most recent honor roll.
  2. Work ethic/behavior: how to make them count and how they affect student motivation.

#### IV. Professional Development

- All upcoming Wednesday afternoons are dedicated to staff development relating to implementation of standards.
- Current discussion of the group known as 9SIT and its role in supporting teachers in the upcoming year of implementation.
- Recent discussion is that 9SIT may be more effective if they serve as mentors to small groups of faculty organized around content areas with others assigned as needed. 9SIT should continue to meet as a whole group in order to maintain consistency.
- Upcoming Early Release Day on 5/19 is being planned with multiple sessions designed to meet faculty needs around standards, utilizing Infinite Campus as an effective communications tool, and others TBD.

#### V. Other

- The group had a discussion regarding offering students and teachers opportunity for safe feedback. Students and teachers could have a way to ask specific questions regarding implementation of standards based reporting, etc. that would offer anonymity. Questions could then be given to 9SIT, or some other group, for consideration in terms of professional development needs.

- Grading guide feedback was discussed. Some parents have a draft of the Parent/student Grading guide and have feedback to offer. How can that be done effectively? Also discussed was should there be different guides based on each target audience: incoming 6th graders, freshmen and next year's sophomores.
- An intervention committee of teachers for both middle and high school has been established with the charge of examining current interventions in place, what changes are needed and what new interventions are possible. A timeline for recommendations is in place.
- Some parents may not know what interventions are available and currently in place such as after school hours when all teachers are available for students to access. Is there a need for a structured learning lab at the high school similar to what exists at the middle school?